



November 17, 2014 – April 7, 2015

ELECT your safety-net approach for 2014 through 2018

After you have evaluated whether you intend to update your yields, reallocate your base, and how those decisions will affect your coverage under ARC/PLC, you will need to formally elect (choose) your coverage.

ARC/PLC Election Required

From November 17, 2014 until April 7, 2015, all of the producers and owners with a share of production on a farm must make a one-time, unanimous and irrevocable election of the following coverage that remains in effect from 2014–2018:

1. PLC or ARC County on a covered commodity-by-commodity basis; or
 - (If you elect PLC/ARC-CO, then producers and owners must also make a one-time election to select which base acres on the farm are enrolled in PLC and which base acres are enrolled in ARC - CO.)
2. ARC Individual for all covered commodities on the farm.
 - (If you elect ARC-IC, then every covered commodity on the farm must participate in ARC - IC.)

Producers enrolling in PLC, and who also participate in the federal crop insurance program, may, beginning with the 2015 crop, make the annual choice as to whether to purchase additional crop insurance coverage called the [Supplemental Coverage Option](#) (SCO), if available. (USDA's Risk Management Agency administers the federal crop insurance program.) SCO provides the producer the option of covering a portion of his or her crop insurance deductible and is based on expected county yields or revenue. The cost of SCO is subsidized and indemnities are determined by the yield or revenue loss for the county or area.

Crops/counties for which the producer has elected to receive ARC are not eligible to purchase SCO.

Producers who enroll their 2015 crop of winter wheat in SCO may elect to withdraw from SCO prior to their acreage reporting date without any penalty. This allows producers additional time to make an informed ARC/PLC participation decision. If they choose ARC, they will not be charged a crop insurance premium so long as they withdraw from SCO prior to their acreage reporting date.

Why It Matters

The choice that you make will remain in effect for the 2014-2018 crop years.

If producers and owners with a share of production on a farm fail to make a valid election during the prescribed election period, the farm will be ineligible for any 2014 payments and the farm will be deemed to have elected PLC starting in the 2015 crop year.

Election is not enrollment. Producers must still enroll their farm (sign a contract) to receive program benefits. The enrollment period will occur mid-April 2015 through summer 2015.

If the sum of the base acres on a farm is 10 acres or less, including generic base acres, a producer on that farm may not receive PLC or ARC payments, unless the producer is a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher or is a limited resource farmer or rancher. Payments for PLC and ARC are issued after the end of the respective crop year, but not before Oct. 1.

For More Information

More information on electing ARC/PLC coverage will be posted to this website when it becomes available. You may also wish to consult [the ARC/PLC Program Fact sheet here](#)

And

[ARC/PLC Frequently Asked Questions](#)